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NEWS OF INTEREST TO FARMERS — SOIL CONSERVATION — FORESTRY — LIVESTOCK

NEWS OF COUNTY FARM BUREAUS

By Byron Dyer

The Sinkhole community has been the subject of much discussion, according to all the discussion at the Farm Bureau meeting Thursday night. Everyone was well pleased with their crop and expressed the belief, if tobacco continued to cure out well, they would come through with one of the best in years. The major portion of the community is Tifton pebble soil, the black seed cotton growing kind. Most of the farmers will rank with the best in the state. With good seasons, this combination has produced one of the best crop prospects seen here in 25 years. The crops generally in that community are the best in the county at the present.

The increased activity of the soil well is worrying the group. With a large weed cotton growing, it is hard to get ample dust in the growth to control the weeds.

It was pointed out at the meeting Thursday that in 80 fields checked for weeds, 77 were infested. Two untreated fields were checked and all were infested with mites to 35 percent infestation was found in a few fields.

Jim H. Strickland and Delmas Rushing recommended the use of MH-30 to control tobacco suckers. Mr. Strickland applied his with plane and got very good results. Mr. Rushing said it would surely do the job and urged wider use of this new plant growth inhibitor to control tobacco suckers.

Billy Cobb, local tobacco warehouseman, urged the group to turn out and vote for the tobacco control program on July 25. He enumerated the advantages of the price support program and pointed out that there was a large surplus of tobacco on hand, even if it is of the lower grades. It still can be pressed the price. As long as this surplus is on hand, controls are essential if a fair price is to be received, Billy stated.

Mr. Cobb would not make any

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predictions on prices for this year's tobacco. However, he did point out that the price support would be slightly higher than last year and that the quality of the tobacco he had seen here this year was well above the 1954. These factors can make this year much more profitable to Bulloch county, he stated.

The group voted not to hold their August meeting because of the heavy tobacco and cotton season, but to meet as usual in September.

Some 35 automobiles joined in the tour of Henry Blitch's farm Thursday afternoon. Most of the group discussed the fertilizer recommendations for various crops during the morning at the Recreation Center. Ralph Johnson, reviewed the fertilizer program found on all tobacco and cotton fields and state winners farms in the better grazing control this year.

He pointed out that these men had produced ample grazing and feed crops and that this was proof enough that their fertilizer practices and other activities were in line with what was needed.

Willis E. Huston, extension irrigation specialist, enumerated the benefits of irrigation on all crops and recommended it as a farm practice on the more remunerative crops such as truck, tobacco, pastures for dairy cattle and cotton. He did state that for cotton,iera and beef cattle grazing. It was only recommended if the equipment was on hand for the use of the crops and time was available for using it. He did not recommend that a system be bought for the use alone.

Mr. Blitch outlined his entire operation in a field by field, over a public address system as the cars moved from field to field during the afternoon. An irrigation demonstration put on by the Coastal Irrigation Company was seen on the tour. It was noted 80 pounds of nitrogen per acre being applied through the sprinklers.

The second or third most important cause for condemnation of hog carcasses is arthritis.

Smokey Says:

NOBODY WANTS TO START A FOREST BUT LOOK WHO'S DOING IT



A plain human weakness—thoughtlessness!

SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION

By E. T. ("Red") Mullis

It has become an axiom that the Soil Conservation Service is the only agency for the Biology Class at Georgia Tech. College to have one class in Soil and Water Conservation. It is a class in the summer, Dr. Donald Caplaner called on the Soil and Water Conservation Service, assisting the Georgia River Soil Conservation District, in such a class last Wednesday.

Mr. Jeff Owens, Soil Scientist from Augusta, and I conducted the class of some 60 students in Soil and Water Conservation giving the history, effects, and solutions of the soil erosion problems and made a short tour to give them some first hand information on soils. Color slides made in Bulloch County were shown to give them a small picture of the work going on here.

Mr. John Atkins is developing an irrigation plan on his farm in the West Side Community. He is tapping a large water supply by agreement from Rigg's Old Mill pond with a large V-canals. He is planning on irrigating tobacco, coastal bermuda grass and millet. John is a dairy farmer and good summer grazing is a necessity for success, which explains the bermuda and millet irrigation.

Mr. Jack Morton gave me his opinion on irrigation after trying it for one season. "It's good, but it's an awful lot of work," Jack stated. "W. M. Ottewill, chairman of the state forester pest committee, likes to get his regular eight hours of sleep every night."

Mr. Henry Blitch has made some mighty good corn following turned bermuda grass. His only drawback was a poor stand due to cutworms. If the bermuda had been turned and harrowed in the fall and worked again in the spring, he thinks he would not have had that trouble. "I believe I would have made 100 bushels per acre with a good stand, as it is, I'll probably make about 60. He says you should do most of your cultivation before planting behind a pasture seed."

The young girls that are putting on quick gains should be kept for the breeding herd, while the mediocre or slow gaining girls should go to market.

FORESTRY NEWS

By J. W. Roberts

Order your forest seedlings for the coming fall and winter planting season early.

The advice given by J. W. Roberts, Ranger, Bulloch County Forestry Unit, as he reported seedling the Georgia Forestry Commission, "More than 100,000,000 seedlings are produced by the Commission's four nurseries in anticipation of the 1955-56 planting season," the Ranger said. "Despite this large production, however, the demand probably will be as it has been for the past several years—greater than the supply. For that reason, we of the Bulloch County Forestry Unit are urging all farmers and landowners of this area to insure their needs being fulfilled by ordering promptly."

Ranger Roberts said the Georgia Forestry Commission, in the interest of fairness to all concerned, operates its nurseries on a "first come—first served" basis. For that reason, those who order seedlings now will be assured their seedlings will be filled in the planting season.

Seedling prices, including cost of transporting to a central point in the county, are as follows: Slash, longleaf, loblolly and shortleaf, \$3.25 per 1,000; Ardena, spruce and cedar, \$6.25 per 1,000. (The cost of shipping is extra.) The seedlings are picked up at the nursery.

Species recommended for planting in Bulloch County is Slash. Order blanks and aid in filling out the blank may be obtained from the Bulloch County Forestry Unit.

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"The meeting was called," Mr. Ottewill explained, "to familiarize these county committees with their duties and to instruct them in detecting and controlling forest pest outbreaks in their local areas. The committees were given the task of acquainting the remainder of the citizens of their counties with the seriousness of the problem, involved and obtaining their cooperation in attacking that problem."

The statecommittee head pointed out that one of the most severe epidemics of bark beetles ever recorded in the South now exists in South Georgia. He said a recent aerial survey showed an estimated loss of 8,312,000 cubic feet of timber in a six months period from bark beetle infestation.

FOREST BEETLE INFESTATION

Meeting Held At Tifton

June 27 To Emphasize Seriousness Of Situation

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